

Applicant(s): Ralph et al.  
Serial No.: 09/975,471  
Filed: 10/11/2002  
For: Intervertebral Spacer Device  
Utilizing a Spirally Slotted  
Belleville Washer Having  
Radially Spaced Concentric  
Grooves

Examiner: Not assigned  
Art Unit: 3738  
Docket No.: F-209  
Dated: 9/8/2003

10-8  
OFFICIAL

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

In response to the office action mailed 8/26/2003 in the above-identified application, the Applicant submits the following remarks.

The Examiner requested a restriction to one of the inventions in the above-identified application. In response, the Applicant hereby elects without traverse the invention of Figs. 4a, 4b, 6a, and 7, relating to claims 1-5, 7, 9, 11-20.

Should the Examiner have any questions or comments concerning this response or any other matters pertaining to this application, the Applicant respectfully requests that the undersigned be called so that the same may be addressed in the most rapid and direct manner.

Respectfully submitted,



Timothy J. Bortree  
Reg. No. 43,506  
SpineCore, Inc. (Customer #36402)  
447 Springfield Avenue, Units W2-W3  
Summit, NJ 07901  
(908) 273-6461 phone  
(908) 273-6136 fax

## FAX COVER SHEET

TO: UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
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GROUP ART UNIT: 3738

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FROM: TIMOTHY J. BORTREE  
REG. NO. 43,506

PHONE: 908-273-6461  
FAX: 908-273-6136

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DATE: 9/8/2003

PAGES: 2 (INCLUDING THIS PAGE)

RE:

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